

INFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION REPORT

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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COUNTRY East Germany REPORT [REDACTED]

SUBJECT Military Activities in the Templin Area DATE DISTR. 26 August 1955

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DATE OF INFO. [REDACTED] REQUIREMENT NO. RD

PLACE ACQUIRED [REDACTED] REFERENCES

DATE ACQUIRED [REDACTED] This is UNEVALUATED Information

SOURCE EVALUATIONS ARE DEFINITIVE. APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.

1. Vogelsang Camp

- a. This encampment appears to be fully occupied by Soviet troops all of whom wear black/red shoulderboards with either tank or artillery insignia in approximately equal proportions. No accurate estimate of the number of occupants was possible.
- b. Heavy equipment observed entering or leaving this encampment during this period included: 12 M-13 rocket launchers, 3 T.34/85's, 2 JSU 152's, and 3 scout cars.

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- iii) There appears to be a large number of Russian families accommodated within this encampment, these families being observed to proceed by truck two or three times weekly into the nearby town of Templin.
- iv) Alongside the new siding recently laid down from Vogelsang railway station to the encampment, three large concrete fuel tanks are under construction. Further details of the construction of the tanks are unknown, although they are positively adjoining the rail track so that they can be filled direct from tank cars.

2. Kannenburg Camp

- a. At the close of the period of report this encampment was still only partially occupied by Soviet troops, the maximum number estimated not to exceed 2,000. All were wearing black/red shoulderboards with both artillery and tank insignia.
- b. During the period of report the training area adjoining this encampment has been in use almost daily. On most occasions only blank ammunition was used. On the last three occasions a mixed force consisting of 6 T.34/85's was observed attacking dug-in anti-tank guns, each tank being observed to transport at least six to eight riflemen on its hull. Owing to the distance no accurate details of the exercise were obtainable.

c. Movements observed were as follows:

- 1) 24 April - 1500 hours: 4 trucks [redacted] each towing an 85 mm. divisional gun, departed from the encampment in the direction of Joachimshagen.
- 11) 28 April - 1000 hours: 3 T.34/85's, together with 2 trucks laden with [redacted] wearing black/red shoulderboards, departed from the encampment and proceeded to the Templin station where they were later entrained. The train is known to have proceeded to Eberswalde.
- 111) 21 May - 0930 hours: 3 empty trucks, whose drivers were wearing red/black shoulderboards, entered the encampment. [redacted]

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4. Construction of New Encampment

- Several workmen employed by Bau Union Brandenburg in Vogelsang Camp have been transferred to a new encampment which is under construction between Beenz and Kroechlendorf. [redacted] a new tank training area is being set up in this vicinity.

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5. Helicopters

[redacted] since the beginning of May there have been as many as 20 type 36 helicopters partaking in local exercises. These helicopters have been stationed on a small emergency landing ground at Retzow about 5 kms NW of Lychen. This landing strip had previously been used by light aircraft whenever exercises had taken place in the vicinity.

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